

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 H-02 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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O R 261225Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6720

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 4893

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, NL

SUBJECT: KLM AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTES: WASHINGTON NEWS  
LIKELY UPSET DUTCH

1. SUMMARY: INDEPENDENT STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS  
ORLANDINI OF KLM AND SEAWELL OF PAN AM SPECULATING  
ON RENEWAL OF CAPACITY TALKS ARE MAKING HEADLINES  
HERE. REQUEST GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. PROMINENT NRC HANDELSBLAD (INDEPENDENT LIBERAL,  
CIRCULATION 102,000) HIT NEWSSTANDS AFTERNOON SEPT 25  
WITH TWO COLUMN FRONT PAGE ARTICLE DATED WASHINGTON  
REPORTING COMMENTS BY PANAM PRESIDENT SEAWELL. SEAWELL  
IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HIGH LEVEL STATE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICIALS HAD ASSURED HIM THAT KLM AND SABENA  
NORTH ATLANTIC FREQUENCY ISSUE WOULD BE PURSUED WITH  
RENEWED VIGOR NOW THAT F-16 PURCHASE HAD BEEN CONSUMMATED.  
WASHINGTON, ACCORDING TO SEAWELL, HAD DELIBERATELY  
MUTED ITS TONE WHILE F-16 ISSUE WAS REACHING CLIMAX;  
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NOW THIS WAS OUT OF THE WAY, ROAD WAS OPEN TO TAKE

ON KLM AGAIN IN FULL.

3. HANDELSBLAD SAYS THAT OFFICIALS IN THE HAGUE WERE SURPRISED ABOUT SEAWELL'S REMARKS. IT QUOTES A SPOKESMAN OF TRANSPORT MINISTRY AS SAYING THAT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN KLM TALKS AND F-16. OFFICIALS REFERRED TO FACT THAT, WHEN AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS WERE BROKEN OFF IN SPRING, AMERICANS SAID THEY WOULD DROP THE MATTER AND NOT TALK ABOUT IT ANY FURTHER UNTIL THEIR OWN AVIATION POLICY HAS BEEN REVISED, WHICH HAS NOT YET HAPPENED. CIVIL AVIATION SERVICE IS FOLLOWING MATTER CLOSELY AND SINCE NO NEW US POLICY HAS BEEN COMPLETED, THERE IS NO REASON TO EXPECT THE AMERICANS WILL SOON RETURN TO THE MATTER.

4. ADDITIONAL STORIES ON SEAWELL COMMENTS APPEARED IN LEADING CIRCULATION DAILY DE TELEGRAAF AND INDEPENDENT DE VOLKSKRANT SEPTEMBER 26. LATTER REPORTS THAT STATE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS SEAWELL'S STATEMENTS "A PERSONAL OPINION", AND SAYS THAT, ACCORDING TO WASHINGTON, SEAWELL'S INTENTIONS MIGHT HAVE BEEN TO FORCE USG TO STRENGTHEN PAN AM'S COMPETITIVE POSITION STILL FURTHER.

5. ON SEPTEMBER 25, IN AMSTERDAM, KLM PRESIDENT ORLANDINI ANSWERED QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR ABOUT SEAWELL STATEMENT AT SHAREHOLDERS MEETING. HE SAID HE EXPECTED US TO COMPLETE REVIEW OF ITS AVIATION POLICY THIS AUTUMN AND THEN TO REOPEN TALKS. ACCORDING TO ORLANDINI, KLM AND DUTCH GOVERNMENT WERE OF ONE MIND AS FAR AS PROBLEMS WITH US OVER TRANSATLANTIC ROUTES ARE CONCERNED. "WE STAND TOGETHER IN THE TRENCHES AGAINST THE US GOVERNMENT."

6. SO FAR ORLANDINI'S REMARKS HAVE ONLY BEEN REPORTED BY DUTCH WIRE SERVICE, ANP, AND HAVE NOT BEEN PICKED UP BY PAPERS.

7. ACCORDING TO A TRANSPORT MINISTRY OFFICIAL, MINISTER WESTERTEP HAS BEEN TOO PREOCCUPIED WITH PUBLIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTROVERSY OVER A TRIP HE JUST MADE TO SPAIN TO BE ABLE TO MAKE ANY COMMENT ON THE KLM STORIES.

8. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT KLM ISSUE HAS IN PAST, INCLUDING EARLIER THIS YEAR, RAISED EXCITEMENT HERE TO HIGH PITCH. THIS ISSUE, MOREOVER, FINDS DUTCH AS ONE, ACROSS POLITICAL SPECTRUM. LINKAGE WITH F-16 IS LIKELY TO BE GREETED WITH DECISION

BY THOSE WHO FELT GON MIGHT BE OVER-EXTENDING ITSELF  
POLITICALLY ON F-16 AND WILL FEEL SUSPICIOUS OF US  
DUPLICITY. WE EXPECT TRANSPORT MINISTRY, HOWEVER,  
TO CONTINUE TO TAKE MODERATE LINE REFLECTED IN  
STATEMENTS TO PRESS. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE TO  
MEET EXPECTED PRESS QUERIES AND POSSIBLE OFFICIAL QUESTIONS.  
GOULD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR ROUTES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Film Number:** D750334-0794  
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**To:** STATE  
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